



MI-CW3811

Michigan Crop Weather

September 19, 2011

Cool Fall

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ended September 18, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 0.70 inches to 1.17 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 0.12 to 0.52 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures were 3 to 4 degrees below normal in the Upper Peninsula and ranged from 3 to 6 degrees below normal in the Lower Peninsula. Scattered frost hit some areas of the state; however, no major damage reported in heavy crop growing regions. Field activities included winter wheat planting, third and fourth cutting of hay, and harvesting of silage, potatoes, dry beans, apples, sugarbeets, peaches, and various vegetable crops.

Field Crops

Corn continued to mature and was mainly in the R4 to R6 stage. Some corn is drying due to lack of rain rather than maturity. **Silage** harvest was in full swing, especially in areas which experienced frost. **Soybeans** also continued to mature where progress was not stopped by frost. Many plants were beginning to color. **Alfalfa** cutting continued where appropriate. **Sugarbeet** harvest began this past week on a limited basis. Field conditions were reported to be dry, making harvest difficult. Piling will not begin until cooler temperatures arrive. The **dry bean** crop continued to mature, and was quickly approaching harvest in some areas. Alternatively, harvest was underway in other areas. **Winter wheat** planting is just beginning in select fields. Many growers were waiting to harvest other crops to plant wheat. **Potato** harvest continued.

Soil moisture for week ending 09/18/11

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	10	38	50	2
Subsoil	7	34	58	1

Crop condition for week ending 09/18/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	5	9	29	45	12
Corn	4	10	27	46	13
Dry beans	4	12	27	39	18
Pasture	6	20	33	37	4
Soybeans	2	7	26	52	13

Fruit

Early varieties of apples were beginning to be harvested in the northwest. Harvest of Gala, McIntosh, and Honeycrisp **apples** continued in the other areas of the state. **Pear** and fresh **peach** harvest was complete. However, processing **peach** harvest neared completion in Oceana County. Stanley **plum** harvest continued. **Blueberry** harvest was complete. Fall **raspberry** harvest continued. Niagara and Concord **grape** harvest was underway.

Vegetables

Below average temperatures and some frosts were experienced by vegetable growers this past week. **Sweet corn** harvest was wrapping up. In East Michigan, excellent quality sweet corn was reported. **Celery** and **onion** harvest continued. In the west central region, **carrot** harvest began on early varieties and plantings. **Tomato** and **pepper** harvest continued. In East Michigan, tomatoes are ripening quicker than can be picked. Processing tomato harvest was approaching 75% complete. Harvest of **winter squash** and **pumpkins** continued. **Cauliflower** and **broccoli** have been of good quality, although worm pressure was high. Processing broccoli harvest was in full swing. **Cabbage** harvest continued. There have been reports of an excellent crop. **Cucumber** for pickle harvest was all but wrapped up. **Snap beans** continued to be harvested.

Crop progress for week ending 09/18/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, third cutting	80	74	80	78
All hay, fourth cutting	21	9	38	25
Apples, harvested	19	12	45	26
Corn, dough	96	89	100	96
Corn, dent	78	61	99	84
Corn, mature	17	6	73	41
Corn silage, harvested	48	21	86	57
Dry beans, turning leaves	93	86	100	93
Dry beans, dropping leaves	76	39	94	79
Dry beans, harvested	14	1	61	34
Peaches, harvested	90	88	100	92
Potatoes, harvested	28	19	27	35
Soybeans, turning leaves	57	31	90	74
Soybeans, dropping leaves	21	6	62	39
Sugarbeets, harvested	2	0	15	5
Winter wheat, planted	2	0	7	6

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/18/11 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2011	2010	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	85	27		2,026	2,133		0.69	0.69	1.42	14.68		
Marquette	86	29		1,975	2,073		0.90	0.90	1.54	15.36		
Stephenson	87	28		2,180	2,428		0.13	0.13	1.41	14.18		
Western UP	87	20	-4	2,002	2,131	1,833	0.70	0.70	1.47	14.19	18.53	3.58
Cornell	83	33		2,166	2,328		0.92	1.03	1.46	13.51		
Sault St Marie	79	40		1,992	2,181		1.20	1.35	2.92	21.41		
Eastern UP	86	23	-3	1,954	2,117	1,621	1.17	1.27	2.18	16.93	17.36	3.55
Beulah	83	39		2,352	2,562		0.89	0.89	2.28	21.83		
Lake City	85	32		2,251	2,397		0.51	0.51	1.70	19.98		
Old Mission	86	37		2,206	2,457		0.03	0.16	1.09	15.33		
Pellston	82	26		2,129	2,316		0.79	0.79	2.76	18.27		
Northwest	86	26	-3	2,197	2,387	2,084	0.52	0.55	1.75	17.65	16.39	3.66
Alpena	85	29		2,159	2,383		0.12	0.12	1.53	20.78		
Houghton Lake	84	28		2,382	2,522		0.38	0.38	1.15	17.23		
Rogers City	79	29		2,018	2,248		0.50	0.50	1.04	14.62		
Northeast	85	28	-5	2,209	2,414	2,018	0.32	0.32	1.34	17.85	16.39	3.47
Fremont	80	34		2,501	2,719		0.01	0.01	0.18	15.92		
Hart	82	31		2,373	2,622		0.09	0.09	0.77	15.24		
Muskegon	81	38		2,769	3,011		0.57	0.57	1.54	21.77		
West Central	83	31	-4	2,475	2,728	2,275	0.21	0.22	0.98	18.16	16.68	3.19
Alma	84	37		2,482	2,797		0.39	0.39	2.03	25.70		
Big Rapids	83	33		2,356	2,608		0.00	0.02	2.24	28.07		
Central	84	33	-4	2,441	2,692	2,348	0.12	0.13	2.21	22.67	17.48	3.09
Bad Axe	83	38		2,414	2,679		0.10	0.15	1.38	22.36		
Pigeon	83	36		2,373	2,635		0.00	0.00	0.29	16.85		
Saginaw	83	42		2,685	2,935		0.23	0.23	1.06	20.57		
Standish	82	32		2,302	2,578		0.05	0.05	0.72	21.90		
East Central	85	32	-5	2,397	2,705	2,350	0.13	0.15	0.86	20.67	15.61	2.70
Fennville	83	36		2,552	2,815		0.08	0.24	0.48	21.17		
Grand Rapids	86	39		2,866	3,092		0.31	0.33	1.01	27.04		
Holland	84	41		3,649	3,080		0.73	0.73	1.20	28.48		
South Bend, IN	87	39		2,984	3,152		0.27	0.61	0.85	25.35		
Watervliet	83	38		2,739	2,986		0.17	0.43	0.90	23.04		
Southwest	87	31	-6	2,779	2,972	2,559	0.22	0.38	0.94	23.63	18.01	3.26
Belding	84	33		2,513	2,722		0.03	0.03	0.47	22.04		
Coldwater	83	36		2,759	3,004		0.28	0.66	1.97	17.51		
Lansing	83	36		2,710	3,003		0.44	0.69	1.54	23.02		
South Central	84	33	-6	2,615	2,883	2,514	0.32	0.70	1.73	23.22	17.80	2.79
Detroit	84	43		3,018	3,227		0.19	2.41	2.97	24.33		
Flint	84	35		2,773	2,965		0.36	0.51	0.86	24.41		
Romeo	79	40		2,643	2,858		0.35	2.10	2.36	21.13		
Tipton	82	40		2,739	2,916		0.48	1.73	2.86	22.38		
Toledo, OH	83	39		2,777	3,203		0.26	1.96	2.68	21.07		
Southeast	84	32	-4	2,720	3,014	2,512	0.30	1.77	2.62	21.57	17.06	2.43

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.